

DCYAC Membership Frequently Asked Questions

What are the benefits of participating in DCYAC?

DCYAC membership benefits include influencing the District's youth-related policies and programs; creating legislation that aids youth; serving as a representative for District youth; interacting with District officials and other local leaders; attending conferences across the country; collaborating with District youth; and developing leadership skills such as public speaking and facilitation.

What is the time commitment for DCYAC members?

DCYAC members are required to attend 75 percent of Council meetings (approximately two meetings per month), participate on committees and perform other tasks as needed. Members are also expected to attend other community meetings and keep youth across the city informed of the DCYAC's activities. In addition, members are required to attend a two-week DCYAC retreat in August.

Are DCYAC members paid?

DCYAC members are volunteers – they are not paid. However, members will receive a stipend to attend the two-week retreat and transportation reimbursement for costs incurred attending Council meetings and other DCYAC related activities.

Do I receive community service hours for participating in DCYAC?

Yes. Members are eligible to receive community service hours for all DCYAC meetings and activities they attend.

Does DCYAC only accept “A” students?

No. DCYAC seeks members of various skills and abilities. Given the significant time commitment of participation in DCYAC though, the Council does seek students who can effectively balance their schoolwork with their DCYAC responsibilities.

Do I have to be a student to participate in DCYAC?

No. DCYAC seeks a diverse membership, which includes youth who are not in school.

Are DCYAC student members required to attend schools in the District?

No. DCYAC members may attend schools outside the District as long as they live in the District.

Do I have to be a District native to participate in DCYAC?

DCYAC members are not required to be District natives, but they must have lived in the District for at least one year.

Is there any flexibility in the age range for DCYAC members?

DCYAC members must be between the ages of 13 and 22 at the time of their appointment to the Council.

Do I need to know a lot about DC government and public policy to become a DCYAC member?

No. DCYAC staff members will train Council members on relevant DC government and public policy topics. However, DCYAC seeks members who are aware of what is going on in their communities and are interested in serving District youth.

How do I submit my DCYAC membership application?

Applications may be submitted via fax, mail, e-mail or in person.

Can I submit my application without the recommendations?

Applications may be submitted without the recommendations, but all parts of the application must be submitted by **Friday, July 30, 2004.**